

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

As requested, a copy of the UK search report is submitted.

The objections to pages 8 and 9 of the specification are noted. Those incorrect uses of reference numbers have been corrected. In addition, standard section headings have been added to the specification.

It is next noted that claim 8 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but that it would be allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include therein all of claim 8 which was the claim found allowable.

Although claim 8 had additionally been dependent upon claim 2, the elements of claim 2 are not included in the amended claim 1 because they recite an additional feature which is not needed to distinguish now amended claim 1 from the prior art, in view of the indication of allowability of original claim 8. Claim 2 remains as a dependent claim.

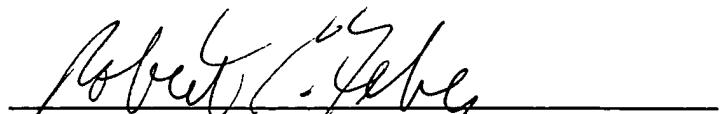
In addition, claim 7 on which claim 8 had been dependent remains. Claim 1 includes the claim 7 elements also, except it recites the blade is secured at an end, which includes one or more ends.

Claims 1, 2 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Taormina. Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 3-6 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. The rejections were rejected over the patents to Maskulka and Taormina.

Reconsideration of all these rejections is requested in view of the amendment of claim 1 to include therein the elements of allowable claim 8. Since claim 1 now is effectively claim 8 (minus claim 2 and part of claim 7), because it is submitted that the element of claim 8 makes amended claim 1 allowable, with the allowance of amended claim 1, the rejection of all of the claims other than claim 8 has been rendered moot and the claims should be allowed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 5, 2004:

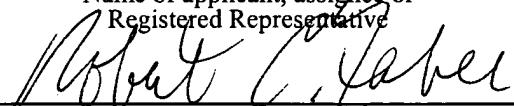
Respectfully submitted,



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Signature

November 5, 2004

Date of Signature

RCF:mjb

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 0214650.4
Claims searched: 1 to 9

Examiner: R.J. MIRAMS
Date of search: 10 September 2002

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.T): A4C (CUC)
Int Cl (Ed.7): A47J 17/02, 17/04.
Other: ONLINE: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO.

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB0579525A (MARIE NORA COLINETTE) e.g. page 2 lines 27 to 31 and figures 1 and 3	at least 1 and 2
X	FR2216960A (WATTRE) e.g. figure 1	at least 1 and 2
X	DE29910161U (MINDERMANN) e.g. abstract and figure	at least 1, 2 and 3
X	JP2001314316A (KOZONO YOSHIAKI) e.g. abstract and figure	at least 1 and 2

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than the filing date of this application.

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